GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:608
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
SMUGGLING OF PRECIOUS GOODS
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;RAMJI MANJHI;SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ordered the Director General,Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and the Director-General (Vigilence) of the Customs and Excise and also the CBI for prosecution of several senior officials of Air Customs for allegedly allowing a women of Uzbekistan origin to smuggle precious goods by visiting India as many as eighty times in one year ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard ;

(c) whether the enquiry has been completed ;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof ;

(e) if not, the time by which the enquiry is likely to be completed ; and

(f) the further steps taken by Government to stop such activities in future ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (e) The Government had ordered, in November, 2000, the Director General, DRI and Director General, Vigilance of theCentral Board of Excise & Customs to conduct investigationsincluding the collusion of Customs Officials for allegedlyallowing a woman of Uzbekistan origin to smuggle goods through IGI Airport, New Delhi. On the basis of the preliminaryinvestigation report of Director General (Vigilance), some officers have been placed under suspension. Besides, the matter has been referred to CBI.

(f) Preventive and Vigilance measures have been intensified at IGI Airport, New Delhi.